

Annapolis Friends Monthly Meeting (AFM)
Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business (MfB)
Eleventh Month, Fourth Day, 2018 (11/4/18)

Present were: Wes J. (clerk), Phil C. (recording clerk), Ellen M., Martha B., Nan & Sky E., Jennifer D-M., Jeanne W., Jack L., Pat H., Mary B., Peter M., Bill K., Harold S., Karen C., Dot W., Barb T., Cairn K., Margaret & Will C., Pat S., Kit H., Cecile T., Mary D., Ann R., Ruth S., Patty R., Sheila M., Doug M. and Lee L.

Our clerk welcomed Friends to MfB and congratulated us on not arriving an hour early, despite our switch from Daylight Savings Time in the wee hours this morning.

1. We began with a brief review of recent activities and calendar items:

a. For Meetinghouse & Lands Com. (MHL), Peter thanked all (about 10 AFM Friends) who took part in yesterday's 2018 Fall Cleanup on a bright but windy day, primarily weeding and mulching in the parking median garden and in the flowerbeds nearest the Meetinghouse. Especially, he also appreciated contribution to this work by about 8 or 10 students and 3 parents from Chesterton Academy, who worked hard and effectively much of the morning; Peter also has sent them a thank you note. Beyond this outdoor work, Friends also completed routine tasks inside the Meetinghouse, and Ron DeAbreu added fresh paint in strategic locations.

b. On our calendar for 11/11/18 at 9:15 a.m., we will have a visit from Ann Venable BYM Development Director and Ken Stockbridge BYM Clerk will join us for our Meeting for Learning.

c. For Holiday Market Com., Cairn noted that our storage Pod will arrive on Monday so donated items can be stored there at the edge of our parking lot in preparation for our 12/1/18 Holiday Market. If possible, Friends are asked to deliver things in boxes; everything donated should be in good condition. Sheryl already has started an online photo gallery of donated furniture & special items.

Also for Holiday Market, one Friend noted that, last year, there was a Spanish-speaking shopper who had difficulty understanding the "donation only" purchase system; Cairn agreed that we will have a sign in Spanish by the door and on the webpage to explain this; also, we may add a colored dot to name tags of Friends who speak Spanish.

Another Friend suggested that we should do more outreach about Quakerism during Market.

d. As to our One America Movement project, Wes noted that a date still must be scheduled for a "fishbowl-type presentation and discussion" of this effort to establish a dialog about our shared history, racial tensions & related divides in our community and our country.

e. Another Friend suggested that we also should hold in the Light our "internal" ministries and committees' work as part of Meeting for Business or otherwise. Our clerk invited Friends to suggest the best way(s) to do this.

f. Looking forward to our planned Potluck Lunch on 12/2/18, our clerk reminded Friends that Leo P. will be moving from the Annapolis area to New York State to join his spouse Valerie in late December. He suggested that we make Potluck in December an occasion to give Leo (and Valerie, if she can return) a send off and our thanks for all their contributions to Meeting over many years. Another Friend suggested that we also should invite participants in the Wednesday Meditation group that Leo has organized and led for many years. Another pointed out that she learned about the Meditation Group before she knew of Meeting and that the Mediation Group has its own important role within the community. Another suggested that Pastoral Care (PC) should ask Leo and Valerie about their availability before selecting a date and PC will be authorized to confirm this date & to make arrangements. Friends approved and Pastoral Care (Patty R) will pursue.

g. A Friend suggested that AFM should find a way to reach out in relation to last week's Tree of Life (TOL) synagogue shooting. Our clerk agreed that we will pursue this. Another Friend reported that, at the national level, Friends General Conference already has sent a letter of condolence to the TOL synagogue.

2. For Pastoral Care Com.(PC), Kit and Mary presented AFM's memorial minute for Carol Brantley who was such a vivid part of AFM as leader of the Lighthouse program, our early worship, our BUC committee, and many other displays of integrity, joy in living and Spirit. (The minute, in fact, already was offered at Carol's memorial service last week and is attached.) Friends approved and thanked the Committee for this minute.

3. For Children's Religious Education Com. (CREC), Wes reported that one child Penelope has expressed an interest in writing (during class time today with some adult assistance) a Children's Christmas play. This will be presented on 12/23 just before conclusion of our usual Meeting for Worship time.

4. For our Peace & Social Concerns Com. (PSC), Mary D. reported that the A.A.Co. Industrial Areas Foundation recently held a successful launch and made its first demand for action relating to testing for lead in county public schools water supply earning national attention and has been renamed Anne Arundel Connecting Together ("ACT"). She invited Friends to join one of ACT's six "action teams" that will be gather on weeknights. Friends expressed their appreciation to Mary D. for her leadership with the ACT effort.

5. For Nominating Com., Patty presented a first reading of our AFM CY19 Slate of proposed officers, committee clerks and members. She noted that CREC, PSC, and Outreach each are seeking additional members, including a nursery coordinator, an email list manager, a convener for our Peace & Justice Center, a GAIN representative and other volunteer jobs. Patty noted that our Meeting only can continue our many good works if we have enough volunteers. (Friends recalled our AFM Peace and Justice Center, that gave rise to MAJR, Climate Stewards, and many other projects, suggesting that we should have official liaisons to MAJR & Climate Stewards. Friends approved this liaison plan with Pat S. to report for MAJR and Wes to report for Climate Stewards. PSC will receive such liaison reports.)

6. For Stewardship and Finance Com. (S&F), Phil offered a first reading of the AFM CY19 Budget. (See attached.) Phil noted that our actual contributions in 2018 are behind the projected total, as we usually receive a substantial increase in December contributions that may result in a surplus. Pending the hoped-for arrival of such a surplus, Phil reported that S&F recommends delaying some possible Meeting House related expenditures including a) \$10,000 annual increase to our building fund, b) \$13,000 improvement in a new deck to replace steps outside the Multipurpose Room; c) \$7,500 replacement of brown folding chairs, and d) \$2,000 improvements to the Memorial Garden. He noted that we hope to restore most, if not all, these improvement recommended by our Meeting House and Land Committee with expected year-end contributions.

Phil also noted that the budget includes a new line-item increasing AFM's annual Lighthouse contribution to \$2,000 – as our annual \$1,000 contribution had not been increased for more than 10 years. S&F also has proposed an increase in our Arundel Connecting Together (ACT) membership to \$1,350, which also would be a line item. The result of these changes would increase our Quaker Causes & other external contributions by nearly \$2,000 per year.

After some discussion, Friends agreed to continue our discernment as to the proposed budget in December when we also can update our progress with annual contributions.

7) One Friend expressed concern about handing out paper copies when AFM has committed to Environmental Stewardship and has implemented other reduction of waste efforts, including elimination of Styrofoam, composting food waste and recycling as much as possible. How to address the concern for hardcopies will require further consideration.

Our Clerk thanked everyone for their participation and we concluded with brief silence, understanding that our Clerk and Recording Clerk would finalize these minutes.

-These minutes respectfully submitted – P. Caroom, Recording Clerk